

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OPIC-03 IGA-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 NEA-09 XMB-02 /105 W

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R 131000Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5840

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISTANBUL 0494

EO: 11652 GDS

TAGS: BGEN, ENRG, TU

SUBJ: STATUS OF MOBIL DISPUTE WITH GOT

REF: (A) ISTANBUL 288; (B) ISTANBUL 444

1. IN FOLLOW-UP WITH CASANOVA, GENMGR MOBIL, CONCERNING CURRENT STATUS OF MOBIL SITUATION, WE WERE INFORMED THAT CASANOVA HOPES TO MEET WITH MINISTER FEB. 13 TO DISCUSS STATUS OF PROPOSAL MADE BY MOBIL TEN DAYS AGO. (SEE ISTANBUL 288). CASANOVA SAID HE RECOGNIZED THAT LETTER RECEIVED FROM GOT, WHICH HE PARENTHETICALLY NOTED WAS SENT DAY FOLLOWING US AID CUTOFF, PROBABLY MEANT THAT MOBIL PROPOSAL HAD BEEN SHELVED. HOWEVER HE HOPED TO PLUMB CURRENT GOT THINKING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS ANY POSSIBLE COMPROMISE FOR CURRENT IMPASSE.

2. MOBIL RECENTLY HAD OBTAINED INFORMAL READING GOT WOULD PROPOSE THAT TPAO SUPPLY CRUDE FOR PROCESSING IN ATAS REFINERY FOR A FEE, AND THAT TPAO WOULD DISTRIBUTE FINISHED PRODUCTS DIRECTLY TO DEALERS -- INCLUDING MOBIL - IN TURKEY. CASANOVA SAID THIS
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WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO MOBIL. HE NOTED THAT CURRENT PLANS

WERE FOR MOBIL VP FOR EUROPE TO ARRIVE IN TURKEY OVER WEEKEND AND TO BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS ON FEB. 17, 18, AND PERHAPS 19, WITH GOT OFFICIALS. CASANOVA INDICATED THAT EFFORTS TO OBTAIN APPOINTMENT WITH PRIMIN SO FAR UNSUCCESSFUL. MOBIL WAS TOLD TO ASK FOR APPOINTMENT TWO TO THREE DAYS AHEAD, SINCE IT NOT POSSIBLE TO PREDICT PRIMIN'S SCHEDULE TEN DAYS IN ADVANCE, NOR "DID THEY KNOW WHETHER HE WOULD BE STILL IN OFFICE" AT THAT TIME.

3. AT PRESENT MOBIL HAS WHITE PRODUCTS TO LAST FROM 15 TO 20 DAYS, BUT THEREAFTER THEIR GAS STATIONS WILL BE DRY IF NO AGREEMENT REACHED WITH GOT. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THIS WOULD AFFECT MOBIL'S ABILITY TO SUPPLY GASOLINE TO CONSULATE GENERAL, HE INDICATED IT WOULD. HE ADDED THAT TPAO WAS SUPPLYING FUEL OIL TO MOBIL'S REGULAR CUSTOMERS.
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